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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 97,253-A)

PATENT

In re Application of:

Barendse et al.

Examiner: unassigned

Serial No.: 09/089,871

Art Unit: unassigned

Filed: June 4, 1998

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SEP 18 1998

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box DD
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.97 - 1.99, the Applicants wish to make the following references listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 of record in the above-identified application. This Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with the continuing duty of candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56.

Copies of the references cited on the Form PTO-1449 are enclosed. Also, attached to each reference in a language other than English is a translation or an explanation of the relevance in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a) (3). For Information Disclosure Statements submitted after receipt of a foreign Search Report, a copy of such Search Report is attached.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the references in their entirety and to so indicate by initialing the appropriate box on the Form PTO-1449. By submission of the

references on the Form PTO-1449 no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. Furthermore, such citation is not a representation that the listed references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. Section 102 or Section 103. Applicants expressly reserve the right to establish that the aforesaid references are not prior art, and/or are not art that is analogous or relevant to the claimed invention.

Additionally, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to the following U.S. Patent applications by the coinventors:

<u>U.S. Application</u> <u>Serial Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
60/048,611	6/4/97	now abandoned
09/090,528	6/4/98	pending

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- within three months of the filing date of a national application; within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)
- after three months of the filing date of a national application, or the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application; or after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (whichever occurs first), and includes (37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c)):
 - the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see "Certification" below)

OR

- the fee of \$230 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) (see "Fees" below).

after a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311 (whichever occurs first), but before, or simultaneously with, the payment of the issue fee, and includes the Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (see “Certification” below), and the Petition Fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) (see “Fees” and “Method of Payment of Fees” below). Applicants hereby petitions for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith and the accompanying references in examination of the subject patent application.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

FEES

No fee is owed by the applicant(s).

The IDS Fee of \$230.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is enclosed herewith.

The Petition Fee of \$130.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed herewith.

METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FEES

Attached is a check in the amount of \$.

Charge Deposit Account No. 13-2490 in the amount of \$. (A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for that purpose.)

Please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 13-2490. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed for this purpose.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

The undersigned hereby certifies that this Information Disclosure Statement (and any documents referenced therein as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 10, 1998

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97,253-A IDS